Trade with China

31. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that judging from the recent visit of Mr. Zhu Ronje to India, China is eyeing the huge Indian market and its potential for trade;

(b) whether the balance of trade between the two countries continues to be in favour of China even though India's trade with China is showing substantial growth; and

(c) the details of Government's plans to compete with China in both bilateral and international trade in view of the fact that China has now entered the WTO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes Sir. The present level of India-China bilateral trade is not commensurate with the potential, given the size of the two countries.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It has been the constant endeavour of the government to make Indian exports competitive so as to compete with China in the world market as well as increase exports to China.

Export of wheat and sugar

32. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the latest stock position of wheat and sugar for export to foreign countries;

(b) the details of quantity of wheat and sugar Government propose to export during the current financial year; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP